

EPA Request for Postponement and In person Hearing

Mary Obringer <mary@protectpt.org>

Mon 6/20/2022 9:03 PM

To: R3 UIC Mailbox R3 UIC Mailbox @epa.gov

Cc: Gillian Graber <gillian@protectpt.org>

 1 attachments (290 KB)

EPA request for postponement and in person hearing.pdf;

June 17, 2022

Ryan Hancharick

Source Water & UIC Section

U.S. EPA Region 3

Email: R3_UIC_Mailbox@epa.gov

Re EPA Request for Postponement and In person Hearing

Dear Mr. Hancharick

We are writing in response to the issuance of a draft permit PAS2D702BALL to Penneco Environmental Solution, LLC, of Delmont, PA. Specifically, we have objection regarding the tentative public hearing currently scheduled virtually for June 28, 2022.

Our first objection is based on the virtual format of the hearing. Allegheny County is a diverse community whose members are always ready to voice their opinions and stimulate healthy conversation; this, however, has traditionally been conducted via in-person hearings. The community impacted by Penneco's objectives is primarily rural, and therefore its constituents cannot be expected to have reliable, widespread access to online platforms such as MS teams. While a dial-in option has been presented, participants who have dialed in are easily overlooked and uncomfortable participating due to only being able to do so at a bare minimum level. As a result, a virtual hearing would discourage conversation from some members of the community and alienate others from attending altogether. Because the purpose of the hearing is to get comment from the entire community affected, a virtual hearing will not meet this purpose in Allegheny County.

that the oil and gas industry has versus what we (local officials who are charged with protecting our selves and the public) have to review application document, research scientific fact and prepare comments.

We request the EPA postpone the hearing and hold it in person for the reasons outlined above, to allow appropriate participation from the public that will be impacted by the issuance of this permit.

Sincere Regard,

Gillian Graber
Executive Director, Protect PT

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Pittsburgh, Allegheny

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Matthew Mehalik Executive
Director Breathe Project
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Pittsburgh, Allegheny

Nicole Ruscitto Council member

Jefferson Hill None

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Jefferson Hills. Allegheny

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Pittsburgh, Allegheny

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Mary Obringer
Outreach Manager
Protect PT (Promote PT Inc.)
724-392-7023 (office)

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Allegheny County

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North Braddock Residents

For Our Future

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North Braddock, Allegheny

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Allegheny

Calvin McCutcheon President

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Jeannette, Westmoreland

Jess Friss Three Rivers Waterkeeper and

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Barbara W Brandom, MD Steering

Committee Member Concerned Health

Professionals of Pennsylvania

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ittsburgh,

Allegheny County

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Protect PT

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Murrysville

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Monroeville

Heather Hulton VanTassel Executive

Director Three River Waterkeeper

heather@threeriverswaterkeeper.org

Pittsburgh

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SCENERY

HILL

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Monroeville, Allegheny

Matt Kelso Manager of Data and

Technology FracTracker Alliance

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